

HONORING GUS MACHADO FOR HIS DEDICATION TO THE SOUTH FLORIDA COMMUNITY

HON. DAVID RIVERA

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 26, 2012

Mr. RIVERA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the outstanding accomplishments of Mr. Gus Machado, who exemplifies the virtues of hard work, dedication, and contribution to the community.

Mr. Machado was born in Cuba, and came to the United States when he was only fifteen years old where he studied at the Edwards Military Institute in North Carolina and Greenville College before working for the Caterpillar Tractor Company in Illinois.

In 1956, he moved to Miami with no more than a few thousand dollars. He used the money to get started in the automotive business by investing in a gas station and sending used cars to Cuba until Castro established himself as the nation's dictator and targeted free enterprise. Nevertheless, Mr. Machado persevered by refocusing his business operations to the Cuban exile community in South Florida. He began concentrating on the retail aspect of car sales and utilized his keen insight to business to identify and cater to the emerging demands of the market. For example, in 1973, he began a business that exported vehicles to Puerto Rico to fulfill the high demand in the area. Soon after, the only other General Motors distributor in Puerto Rico closed down, leaving Mr. Machado as the main dealer in the market.

Throughout the following years, his business endeavors multiplied and he established himself as one of the most successful automotive dealers in the country. In 1984, he purchased a Ford dealership in Hialeah and quickly became the #1 Ford dealer in Miami-Dade County.

Today, Mr. Gus Machado is one of the most respected and successful car dealers in the country. When the recession hit, the future of the auto industry looked very grim. Like many other Americans, Mr. Machado's business faced unprecedented hardship. Nevertheless, he took a bold risk by expanding his domain and buying another Ford dealership in Kendall. Like many of his other ventures, this too proved fruitful. He continues to provide his services to the community, and has been honored with countless awards for his work, including the Ford Motor company's highest honor, the President's Award.

Furthermore, Mr. Machado has established himself as one of the most generous philanthropists in South Florida. His endeavors include the establishment of the Gus Machado Family Foundation, which provides hundreds of children with backpacks and school supplies every year, and the founding of the Gus Machado Classic Charity Golf Tournament benefiting the American Cancer Society, among many, many others.

Mr. Machado has also worked hard to promote the transition to democracy in his native Cuba, the most oppressive nation in the Western Hemisphere. His dedication to the cause of liberty and freedom is truly remarkable.

Due to his hard work, his ambition, and his generosity, Mr. Machado embodies the American Dream. He is a model citizen for aspiring

businessmen and civic leaders because he reminds us of what it truly means to be an American.

However, I doubt that he could have made it this far without the support of his wonderful family and particularly his loving wife Lilliam who has organized many charitable events in our community.

On June 29th, the community will show its appreciation by dedicating "Gus Machado Way" in his honor. On behalf of the South Florida community, I thank Mr. Machado for everything he has done for this community, and I take great pride in being a part of this celebration.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 26, 2012

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, on January 20, 2009, the day President Obama took office, the national debt was \$10,626,877,048,913.08.

Today, it is \$15,782,570,144,097.96. We've added \$5,155,693,095,184.88 to our debt in just over 3 years. This is debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

Forty-nine years ago today, John F. Kennedy delivered his *Ich bin ein Berliner* speech in West Berlin. At that time, America had the economic security to challenge her communist foe. We must rid ourselves of this crippling debt.

CONGRATULATORY REMARKS FOR OBTAINING THE RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT

HON. SANDY ADAMS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 26, 2012

Mrs. ADAMS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate Austin N. Krohne for achieving the rank of Eagle Scout.

For his Eagle Scout project, Austin coordinated an oyster reef restoration project to benefit marine flora and fauna, and to improve water quality within the Indian River Lagoon. Throughout the history of the Boy Scouts of America, the rank of Eagle Scout has only been attained through dedication to concepts such as honor, duty, country and charity. By applying these concepts to daily life, Austin has proven his true and complete understanding of their meanings, and thereby deserves this honor.

I offer my congratulations on a job well done and best wishes for the future.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE PATRIOT LEDGER'S 175TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 26, 2012

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 175th birthday of The Patriot

Ledger, the long-standing newspaper of record for Massachusetts' South Shore communities.

Headquartered and published in Quincy since its inception, The Patriot Ledger is one of Massachusetts' oldest local daily newspapers and serves twenty-six communities on the South Shore with approximately 55,000 residents in its circulation. Founded on January 7, 1837, the paper was originally known as the Quincy Patriot and was once the hometown newspaper of President John Quincy Adams. When Adams was serving in the House of Representatives following his presidency, he frequently wrote letters to the editor regarding the many issues that the House was facing at the time, such as the abolishment of slavery, the admission of Texas as a state, and the heated debates that Members of Congress often had with one another. The Patriot Ledger has served as a trusted chronicler of local and national news ever since, and it continues to be one of the region's most popular daily papers.

In addition to providing important and reliable news to the South Shore every day, The Patriot Ledger has frequently been at the forefront of many aspects of newspaper production and technology. In the 1950's, experimentation by the paper's printing staff led to the development of the first practical photo-typesetting machine, an innovation that attracted the attention of newspaper executives around the world. The paper was also among the first in the nation to establish zoned editions for local news and advertising, and it paved the way in establishing many other modern features of the print news industry. Such features pioneered by The Patriot Ledger include the use of 35-millimeter photography, the transmission of daily editions to the printer via facsimile, the use of a computer editing system, and the installation of a two-way radio system for spot news coverage. While many newspapers struggle with the technological advancements of the twenty-first century, The Patriot Ledger continues to grow and move forward.

As a result of its excellence in reporting and its frequent innovation, The Patriot Ledger has been the recipient of many awards throughout its 175-year tenure. It was named as the New England Press Association's Newspaper of the Year in 2005 and 2006, and won the title of the New England Newspaper Association's Newspaper of the Year in 2007. Among the awards The Patriot Ledger received in 2011 were seven national journalism awards from Suburban Newspapers of America and six additional awards from the New England Associated Press News Executives Association. Already this year, the paper has been awarded two national prizes from the Society of American Business Editors and Writers, including the General Excellence award for the paper's business section. Notably, The Patriot Ledger was the only daily paper with a circulation of less than 100,000 to be recognized.

Mr. Speaker, it brings me great pride to honor The Patriot Ledger as the newspaper celebrates 175 years of publication. I fondly remember reading it when I was young and look forward to reading it for many more years to come. I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing this great paper that has long been woven into the fabric of our country's history.